

CLAIMS

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1. A terminal apparatus connected to a network and configured to perform an operation, the terminal apparatus comprising:

10 a packet volume detecting unit configured to detect the number of packets received from the network in a predetermined time; and

a logical disconnecting unit configured to logically disconnect the terminal apparatus from the network when the number of packets detected by the  
15 packet volume detecting unit exceeds a predetermined value.

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2. The terminal apparatus according to claim 1, wherein

25 said packet volume detecting unit detects the number of only those broadcast packets among packets received by said terminal apparatus, and

said logical disconnecting unit logically disconnects the terminal apparatus from the network when the number of broadcast packets received in a predetermined time exceeds a predetermined value.

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3. The terminal apparatus according to claim 1 or 2, further including:

a reconnecting unit configured to reconnect said terminal apparatus to said network after a  
5 predetermined return time has elapsed since said terminal apparatus is disconnected from said network by said logical disconnecting unit.

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4. The terminal apparatus according to claim 3, wherein

said reconnecting unit increases the length  
15 of said return time longer than that of said return time in a previous disconnection when said terminal apparatus is disconnected again after the reconnection.

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5. The terminal apparatus according to claim 1 or 2, including:

25 an operation inputting device for inputting a connection order for connecting said terminal apparatus to said network.

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6. The terminal apparatus according to claim 1 or 2, including:

a display device for displaying the fact  
that said terminal apparatus is disconnected.

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7. The terminal apparatus according to  
claim 1 or 2, further including:

a unit for storing history information  
10 about disconnection and reconnection of said terminal  
apparatus; and

a display device for displaying the history  
information.

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8. The terminal apparatus according to any  
one of claims 1 to 7, wherein

20 said packet volume detecting unit does not  
detect said number of packets when the terminal  
apparatus is logically disconnected from said network.

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9. The terminal apparatus according to any  
one of claims 1 to 8, including:

a first changing unit configured to change  
30 said predetermined value in accordance with  
processing contents required via said network.

10. The terminal apparatus according to claim 9, wherein

5           said first changing unit changes said predetermined value in accordance with a transition of said processing contents required via said network.

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11. The terminal apparatus according to any one of claims 1 to 10, including:

          a second changing unit configured to change  
15   said predetermined value in accordance with a status of said network.

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12. A control method of a terminal apparatus connected to a network and configured to perform an operation, the control method of a terminal apparatus comprising the steps of:

25           detecting the number of packets received from the network in a predetermined time; and  
          logically disconnecting the terminal apparatus from the network when the detected number of packets exceeds a predetermined value.

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13. A computer-readable program for causing a computer to perform the control method of a terminal apparatus according to claim 12.

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14. A computer-readable recording medium in which the computer-readable program according to claim 13 is recorded.

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15. A network system including a plurality of terminal apparatuses connected to a network, each terminal apparatus comprising:

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a packet volume detecting unit configured to detect the number of packets received from the network in a predetermined time; and

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a logical disconnecting unit configured to logically disconnect the terminal apparatus from the network when the number of packets detected by the packet volume detecting unit exceeds a predetermined value.

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16. A control method of a network system including a plurality of terminal apparatuses connected to a network, the control method of a network system comprising the steps of:

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detecting, in each terminal apparatus, the number of packets received from the network in a predetermined time; and

logically disconnecting a corresponding  
5 terminal apparatus from the network when the detected number of packets exceeds a predetermined value.

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17. A computer-readable program for causing a computer to perform the control method of a network system according to claim 16.

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18. A computer-readable recording medium in which the computer-readable program according to  
20 claim 17 is recorded.